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PATENT

Docket No.: 19603/3810 (CRF D-2693)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Paul H. Steen)	Examiner:
)	Len Tran
Serial No.	:	10/072,404)	
Cnfrm. No.	:	4797)	Art Unit:
)	1725
Filed	:	February 8, 2002)	
For	:	A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR)	
		CONTINUOUS CASTING OF A MOLTEN)	
		MATERIAL)	

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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GROUP 1700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 18, 2003, Applicant elects the invention of Group I which includes Claims 1-12, 24-32, with traverse. Applicant submits that the subject matter of the two groups identified in the outstanding office action would require common areas of search and consideration. Accordingly, there is no benefit in having these groups of claims examined and prosecuted in separate applications. Therefore, to conserve the resources of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, as well as those of Applicant, it is submitted that all claims of the above-identified patent application should be examined together and the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

In view of all of the foregoing, Applicant submits that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 17, 2003

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